* State Government have appointed senior officers as nodal officers for resolving problems associated with implementation of the National Highways Development Project such as land acquisition, removal of utilities, forest/pollution/environment clearances etc.
* Process of issue of land acquisition notifications has been streamlined.
* To expedite the construction of Road overbridges, an officer of the Railways has been posted to National Highways Authority of India to coordinate with Railways.
* Learning from the past experiences DPR preparation exercise has been streamlined.
* The bid documents have also been standardized with a view to bringing in uniformity and clarity in bidding and contract administration.
* Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) are being reviewed by experts to ensure that all aspects of the projects are duly covered.
* DPR consultants are asked to incorporate the modifications and changes suggested by the experts.
* Wherever the consultants have been found wanting in performance, deterrent action is taken in the form of warning (for minor omission), suspension of short listing with NHAI and debarment for a prescribed period.

**Improvment of National Highways in Jharkhand**

517. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects for improvement/construction of National Highways in Jharkhand approved since 2000-01, including those for which approval of Central Government has been pending;

(b) the details of length of National Highways undergone augmentation/construction during the period since 2000-01 indicating project cost *vis-a-vis* cost incurred and identity of national Highways in the State;

(c) the current status of the projects which are pending, if any;

(d) the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time-schedule proposed for its completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) 89 number of projects for improvement/construction of National Highways in Jharkhand have been approved so far since 2000-01. Further to this, 13 proposals have been received from the State Government of Jharkhand during the current financial year.

(b) A Statement indicating length of National Highways taken up for augmentation/construction since 2000-01 indicating project cost and identity of National Highway in the State of Jharkhand is annexed (*See* below). A total of Rs. 755.83 Crore has been spent on development of various National Highways in the State of Jharkhand since 2000-01 including an expenditure of Rs. 613.20 Crore on 4-laning of NH-2 under National Highway Development Project (NHDP) Phase I. The total cost of sanctioned works on National Highways since 2000-01 is Rs. 986.62 Crore.

(c) and (d) the pending proposals will be considered for sanction depending upon availability of funds and *inter-se* priority of projects.

(e) The ongoing sanctioned projects, including those recently sanctioned, are at various stages of implementation including tender award. These projects are targeted for completion by March, 2007.

***Statement***

*Length of National Highways taken up for augmentation/construction since* 2000-01 *indicating project cost and identity of National Highway in the State of Jharkhand*

| Sl. No. | NH No. | Length covered (in km.) | No. of Project sanctioned | Total cost of the (in Rs. crore) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | 2 | 149.25 | 2 | 798.70 |
| 2. | 6 | 21.10 | 2 | 6.26 |
| 3. | 23 | 160.39 | 19 | 54.12 |
| 4. | 31 | 16.00 | 2 | 3.07 |
| 5. | 32 | 22.00 | 5 | 7.09 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6. | 33 | 245.00 | 35 | [illegible] |
| 7. | 75 | 41.00 | 4 | [illegible] |
| 8. | 78 | 26.93 | 3 | [illegible] |
| 9. | 80 | 47.80 | 6 | [illegible] |
| 10. | 99 | 35.60 | 3 | 8.56 |
| 11. | 100 | 77.00 | 5 | 14.75 |
| 12. | Misc./more than one NH | — | 3 | 1.11 |
| TOTAL: | | 842.07 | 89 | 986.62 |

**Note:** Projects sanctioned for National Highway No. 2 relate to development of road to 4-lane standards.

**Works on highways under NHDP**

†518. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of nearly 513 kilometre stretch of East-West Corridor along Bihar border under National Highway Development Project has been put on hold;

(b) whether it is a fact that expected width of the National Highway Nos. 28 and 57 has not yet been demarcated;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is a fact that there is proposal to link these highways with a four-lane way from Muzaffarpur to Patna; and

(e) if so, the action taken in this regard and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) No Sir.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.